



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week marks its 12th anniversary in 2026, celebrating the essential role that Registered Apprenticeships play in expanding economic opportunity for New Mexicans by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and establish pathways into high-quality, well-paying careers; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's long-term economic strength depends on expanding inclusive workforce opportunities for individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequity; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs provide New Mexico employers with a proven, industry driven model to develop a skilled workforce, while offering apprentices affordable and direct pathways to high demand, high wage occupations; and

WHEREAS, these programs are uniquely positioned to meet the evolving needs of the New Mexico economy, opening doors for women, young people, people of color, rural residents, justice involved individuals, and individuals with disabilities to gain in demand skills and contribute to the state's most critical industries; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico now supports 74 Registered Apprenticeship Programs with approximately 2,657 apprentices statewide, strengthening local businesses, rural communities, and emerging industries; and

WHEREAS, in the 2026 legislative session, I signed HB 7 Apprenticeship Assistance Act Transfers, ensuring continued \$5 million annual distributions from the Workforce Development and Apprenticeship Trust Fund to sustain and expand apprenticeship and training programs across the state, preventing reductions in services that would limit access for New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, I also had the pleasure of signing HB 270 Contributions to Apprentice & Training Programs, further strengthening New Mexico's workforce pipeline by supporting and expanding training programs essential to the state's economic development strategies; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico recognizes that Registered Apprenticeships are a cornerstone of improving job quality, expanding access to family sustaining careers, and meeting the workforce needs of infrastructure development, clean energy transition, broadband expansion, cybersecurity modernization, and the care economy.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim April 26th - May 2nd, 2026, as:

"National Apprenticeship Week"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Poulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
23rd day of March 2026.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor